UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Ernest Moore,	Civ. Action #:
Plaintiff,	<u>Complaint</u>
Nelson Management Group LTD., and LBPR Services, LLC,	Date Filed: Jury Trial Demanded
Defendants.	

Plaintiff Ernest Moore ("Plaintiff" or "Moore"), by Abdul Hassan Law Group, PLLC, his attorney, complaining of Defendants Nelson Management Group LTD., and LBPR Services, LLC (collectively "Defendants"), respectfully alleges as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 1. Plaintiff alleges that he was employed by Defendants, individually and/or jointly, and pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. §§ 216 (b), he is: (i) entitled to unpaid wages from Defendants for working more than forty hours in a week and not being paid an overtime rate of at least 1.5 times the regular rate for each and all such hours over forty in a week; and (ii) entitled to maximum liquidated damages and attorneys' fees pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 et seq. including 29 U.S.C. §§ 216(b).
- 2. Plaintiff further complains that he was employed by Defendants and pursuant to the New York Labor Law ("NYLL") he is: (i) entitled to unpaid overtime wages from Defendants for working more than forty hours in a week and not being paid an overtime rate of at least 1.5 times the regular rate for each and all such hours over forty in a week, and (ii) entitled to maximum liquidated damages and attorneys' fees, pursuant to the New York Minimum Wage Act ("NYMWA"), N.Y. Lab. Law §§ 650 et seq., including NYLL § 663, 12 NYCRR §§ 142-2.2, 141, and the regulations thereunder.
- 3. Plaintiff is also entitled to unpaid wages including overtime wages, wage deductions, compensation for not receiving notices and statements required by NYLL § 195, under

Article 6 of the New York Labor Law and is also entitled to maximum liquidated damages, interest, and attorneys' fees pursuant to Section § 198 of the New York Labor Law.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1337 and supplemental jurisdiction over Plaintiff's state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367. In addition, the Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's claim under the Fair Labor Standards Act pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216 (b).
- 5. Venue is proper in the Southern District of New York pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and 29 USC § 216(b).
- 6. This Court is empowered to issue a declaratory judgment pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2202, 2201.

THE PARTIES

- 7. Plaintiff Ernest Moore ("Plaintiff" or "Moore") is an adult, over eighteen years old, who currently resides in Bronx County in the State of New York.
- 8. Upon information and belief, and at all times relevant herein, Nelson Management Group LTD. ("NMG") was a New York for-profit corporation.
- 9. Upon information and belief, and at all times relevant herein, Defendant LBPR Services, LLC ("LBPR") was a New York for-profit Limited Liability Company.
- 10. Upon information and belief and at all times relevant herein, Defendants shared a place of business in Bronx County, New York located at 875 Boynton Avenue, Bronx, NY 10473 where Plaintiff was employed.
- 11. Upon information and belief and at all times relevant herein, Defendants individually and/or jointly controlled the employment of Plaintiff and was responsible for hiring, firing, scheduling, controlling, managing, supervising, and record-keeping as to Plaintiff's

employment, among other employment functions which they performed as to Plaintiff.

12. At all times relevant herein, Plaintiff was employed individually and/or jointly, by Defendants.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 13. Upon information and belief, and at all relevant times herein, Defendants were engaged in the business of building management and ownership within the New York tri-state area.
- 14. Upon information and belief, and at all relevant times herein, Defendants, individually and or jointly, employed over 28 employees.
- 15. Plaintiff was employed by Defendants from in or around July 2019 to on or about April 19, 2022.
- 16. At all times relevant herein, Plaintiff was employed by Defendants as a handyman/laborer performing physical and manual maintenance and cleaning work in Defendants' building.
- 17. At all times relevant herein, Plaintiff was an hourly employee of Defendants and his last regular rate of pay was about \$16.0375 an hour.
- 18. At all times relevant herein, and throughout the period Plaintiff was employed by Defendants, Plaintiff worked about 42.5-45 or more hours each week for Defendants, 5 days a week with the exception of 2-3 weeks each year. However, although Plaintiff was paid for some overtime hours, Plaintiff was not paid any wages for about 2.5-3 or more overtime hours (weekly hours over 40), each week until about a couple of months before his employment ended when he stopped working these additional hours for which he was not paid.
- 19. A more precise statement of the hours and wages may be made when Plaintiff obtains the wage and time records Defendants were required to keep under the FLSA and NYLL.

 **Accurate copies of Plaintiff's wage and time records that Defendants were required to keep

- pursuant to 29 USC 211, 29 CFR 516 and NYLL 195, 12 NYCRR 142.2-6 are incorporated herein by reference.
- 20. At all times relevant herein, Defendants, individually and/or jointly failed to pay Plaintiff at a rate of at least 1.5 times his regular rate for each and all overtime hours (hours over 40 in a week) worked in each week during his employment with Defendants.
- 21. At all times relevant herein, Defendants did not provide Plaintiff with the notice(s) required by NYLL 195(1). See i.e. *Alonso Vazquez v. Azoulay*, 834 F. App'x 653, 654 (2d Cir. 2021).
- 22. At all times relevant herein, Defendants did not provide Plaintiff with the statement(s) required by NYLL 195(3) the wage statements provided to Plaintiff did not contain all hours worked by Plaintiff nor all wages earned, among other deficiencies. See i.e. *Alonso Vazquez v. Azoulay*, 834 F. App'x 653, 654 (2d Cir. 2021).
- 23. Upon information and belief, and at all times relevant herein, Defendants had revenues and/or transacted business in an amount exceeding \$500,000 annually.
- 24. At all times applicable herein, Defendants, individually and/or jointly conducted business with vendors and other businesses outside the State of New York.
- 25. At all times applicable herein and upon information and belief, Defendants conducted business in interstate commerce involving equipment, and supplies.
- 26. Defendants as a regular part of their business, makes payment of taxes and other monies to agencies and entities outside the State of New York.
- 27. Defendants as a regular part of their business, engaged in credit card transactions involving banks and other institutions outside the state of New York.
- 28. At all times applicable herein and upon information and belief, Defendants, individually and/or jointly, transacted business with insurance companies, banks and similar lending institutions outside the State of New York.

- 29. At all times applicable herein and upon information and belief, Defendants utilized the instrumentalities of interstate commerce such as the United States mail, internet electronic mail and telephone systems.
- 30. Upon information and belief, and at all relevant times herein, Defendants failed to display federal and state minimum wage/overtime posters and failed to inform Plaintiff that he could seek enforcement of such rights through the government enforcement agencies. See i.e. *Veltri v. Building Service 32B-J Pension Fund*, 393 F.3d 318, 324 (2d Cir. 2004); *Kim v. Kum Gang, Inc.*, No. 12 CIV. 6344 MHD, 2015 WL 2222438, at 33–34 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 19, 2015).
- 31. The circumstances of Defendants termination of Plaintiff's employment and other aspects and conditions of Plaintiff's employment are under review and investigation and Plaintiff may assert wrongful termination and other claims at a later time.
- 32. "Plaintiff" as used in this complaint refers to the named Plaintiff.
- 33. The "present" or the "present time" as used in this complaint refers to the date this complaint was signed.

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT - 29 U.S.C 201 et Seq. (Overtime)

- 34. Plaintiff alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 33 above as if set forth fully and at length herein.
- 35. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff was employed by Defendants, individually and/or jointly, within the meaning of the FLSA 29 U.S.C 201 et Seq.
- 36. Upon information and belief, and at all times relevant to this action, Defendants, individually and/or jointly, constituted an enterprise(s) engaged in commerce within the meaning of the FLSA including 29 U.S.C. § 207.

- 37. Upon information and belief and at all times relevant herein, Defendants, individually and/or jointly, transacted commerce and business in excess of \$500,000.00 annually or had revenues and/or expenditures in excess of \$500,000.00 annually.
- 38. At all times relevant herein, Defendants failed and willfully failed to pay Plaintiff, overtime compensation at rates not less than 1.5 times his regular rate of pay for each and all hours worked in excess of forty hours in a work week, in violation of 29 U.S.C. § 207.

Relief Demanded

39. Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendants, individually and/or jointly, his unpaid overtime wage compensation, plus maximum liquidated damages, attorney's fees, and costs of the action, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).

AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION NYLL 650 et Seq. (Unpaid Overtime)

- 40. Plaintiff alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 38 above as if set forth fully and at length herein.
- 41. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff was employed by Defendants, individually and/or jointly, within the meaning of the New York Labor Law, §§ 2 and 651 and the regulations thereunder including 12 NYCRR § 142, 141.
- 42. At all times relevant herein, Defendants, individually and/or jointly, failed to pay and willfully failed to pay Plaintiff overtime compensation at rates not less than 1.5 times his regular rate of pay for each and all hours worked in excess of forty hours in a week, in violation of the New York Minimum Wage Act and its implementing regulations. N.Y. Lab. Law §§ 650 et seq.; 12 NYCRR § 142-2.2, 12 NYCRR § 141-1.4.

Relief Demanded

43. Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendants, individually and/or jointly, his unpaid overtime wages, maximum liquidated damages, prejudgment interest, attorney's fees, and costs of the action, pursuant to NYLL § 663(1).

AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION NYLL § 190, 191, 193, 195 and 198

- 44. Plaintiff alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 43 above as if set forth fully and at length herein.
- 45. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff was employed by Defendants, individually and/or jointly within the meaning of the New York Labor law, §§ 190 et seq., including §§ 191, 193, 195 and 198 and the applicable regulations thereunder.
- 46. Defendants violated and willfully violated NYLL §§ 190 et seq., including §§ 191, 193 and 198, by failing to pay Plaintiff his unpaid overtime wages, (FLSA and NYMWA), and wage deductions, as required under NY Labor Law § 190 et seq.
- 47. At all times relevant herein, Defendants, individually and/or jointly failed and willfully failed to provide Plaintiff with the notice(s) required by NYLL § 195(1) Plaintiff is therefore entitled to and seeks to recover in this action the maximum recovery for this violation, plus attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to NYLL § 198 including NYLL § 198(1-b), as well as an injunction directing Defendants to comply with NYLL § 195(1).
- 48. At all times relevant herein, Defendants failed and willfully failed to provide Plaintiff with the statement(s) required by NYLL § 195(3) Plaintiff is therefore entitled to and seeks to recover in this action the maximum recovery for this violation, plus attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to NYLL § 198 including NYLL § 198(1-d), as well as an injunction directing Defendants to comply with NYLL § 195(1).

Relief Demanded

49. Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendants, individually and/or jointly his entire unpaid

wages, including his unpaid overtime wages (FLSA and NYMWA), wage deductions, maximum liquidated damages, prejudgment interest, maximum recovery for violations of NYLL § 195(1) and NYLL § 195(3), reasonable attorneys' fees, and costs of the action, pursuant to N.Y. Labor Law § 190 et seq. including § 198.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court grant the following relief:

- 50. Declare Defendants, individually and/or jointly, to be in violation of the Plaintiff's rights under the Fair Labor Standards Act, Article 6 of the New York Labor Law, the New York Minimum Wage Act, and the Regulations thereunder;
- 51. As to the **First Cause of Action**, award Plaintiff his unpaid overtime wages due under the FLSA, together with maximum liquidated damages, costs and attorney's fees pursuant to 29 USC § 216(b);
- 52. As to the **Second Cause of Action**, award Plaintiff his unpaid overtime wages due under the New York Minimum Wage Act and the Regulations thereunder including 12 NYCRR § 142-2.2, 12 NYCRR § 141-1.4, together with maximum liquidated damages, prejudgment interest, costs and attorney's fees pursuant to NYLL § 663;
- 53. As to the **Third Cause of Action**, award Plaintiff, his unpaid wages including his entire unpaid wages, including his unpaid overtime wages, (FLSA and NYMWA), and wage deductions, maximum liquidated damages, prejudgment interest, maximum recovery for violations of NYLL § 195(1) and NYLL § 195(3), reasonable attorneys' fees, and costs of the action, pursuant to N.Y. Labor Law § 190 et seq. including § 198.
- 54. Award Plaintiff prejudgement interest on all monies due;
- 55. Award Plaintiff any relief requested or stated in the preceding paragraphs, but which has not been requested in the WHEREFORE clause, in addition to the relief requested in the wherefore clause;
- 56. Award Plaintiff such other, further and different relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: Queens Village, New York April 30, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Abdul Hassan Law Group, PLLC

/s/ Abdul Hassan

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